

San Diego DX Club Bulletin

February 2017



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

NPOTA (National Parks On The Air)
by John Vissat NA6L

MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2017

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,
San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988
SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.
MEETING, 6:30 P.M

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From the Prez . . .

Howard, W6HDG

A State of the Club Message

Each year it seems appropriate to evaluate where we are as a club and where we are going.

The best news, at least for me, is that our Board of Directors is simply outstanding and my job as President has been really enjoyable.

Our VP, Mike, NA6MB put together a great holiday party with nearly \$2000 in donated prizes. His monthly meeting presenters have been some of the best in club history. If you haven't attended a meeting lately, please do so. You won't be disappointed. See elsewhere in the bulletin for this month's planned presentation by John, NA6L. All I can say is "Wow"!

Randy, KQ6RS runs a tight ship as Secretary-Treasurer. By using Paypal, Electronic banking and Excel spreadsheets for membership, our dues collection and recordkeeping have joined the 21st Century. Our online Roster is nearly real-time. Meeting minutes are also impeccable since Randy writes them the morning after each meeting!

Our three board members, Ron NØRR, Miguel, KJ6YXI and Ron, WB1EAZ have been valuable team members and never hesitate to give me sage advice when decisions must be made.

In addition to board members, Bob Farkaly, K9RHY creates a world-class bulletin each month. If it weren't for Bob's immense talent and dedication, we likely wouldn't have a bulletin at all. (*Shucks, Howard, I'm blushing! Ed.*)

And last but not least, Glen, AI6RR took on the mammoth task of updating our club website. The original site was apparently written in Sanskrit and Glen is making real progress unraveling its mysteries. I was floored when Glen actually accepted the job since he is busy working on his DXCC and serving as Membership Chairman of PARC. Thank you, Glen.

So where are we heading? At our last meeting, a member-panel discussed the history of our club and it was impressive to say the least (see description and pics in the bulletin). For 2017, the question is, "How can we revive some of the enthusiasm and mentorship that our SDDXC forefathers so enjoyed?"



Unfortunately, volunteerism in our club seems to be declining. Few if any hands go up when a request is made for a volunteer. At last year's IDXC convention, we had to beg for volunteers and several of our members had to do double shifts to cover the registration desk.

The solution? New members. Lots of them. Especially younger members (and let's face it, that means we should be recruiting some who are actually under the age of 65!). I realize that this is heresy to some of our old-timers who feel that a certain level of DX proficiency should be a prerequisite for club membership. I don't agree. Paul, N6PSE, one of the top DX'ers and DXpedition leaders in the US started out by joining the ham radio ranks as a tech with a hand-held. He thought he was predominantly interested in emergency communications until he serendipitously got exposed to DX. Our own Paul, WN6K has set a great example by being a very active Elmer and getting high school kids into the hobby. So it can be done! I therefore propose that we appoint a Membership Chairperson and give that individual a nice budget. We need someone who might like to present to other clubs, interact with high schools, distribute leaflets at VE testing sessions, go to Fry's Operating Days, and present at Scouting events. I'm sure many of us wouldn't mind being tapped by this Membership Chairman as an Elmer who would host a young person over to our shack for a demo. QRZ - will the new Membership Chairman please email me? In the event we have 81 volunteers, we can have a run-off at the next meeting.

Howard, W6HDG

No TOP 10 or Contest Results this month. John is in the Caribbean contesting.

John, K6AM

From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



I'm currently working on two items for future SDDXC Bulletins. Since this is the start of spring in TN, I have been working on the dock, the boat house and the seawall and those tasks have kept me pretty busy. But we have some content that should be of interest coming up soon.

73 and all the best,

Bob, K9RHY



From Jim, K6ZH

During last month's "nostalgia" meeting, I showed some photos from the 1993 Field Day during which SD DX Club combined forces with the Point Loma ARC (W6RDF) to do a mega-Field Day. We took a group photo.

Most of the folks in the photo are still around, but we'd like to identify three people in the photo – perhaps someone in the club will remember these guys, because Terry, N6CW and I don't. We also showed this photo to Dan, KB5MY, who's in the photo, and he couldn't come up with names either. In any case, lots of ham radio talent in this group!

Names / calls we know:

The four guys in the back, left to right: Dan, KB5MY, Fred, K9VV (now NP2X), Larry, N6NC, Terry, N6CW.

Center row, left to right: unknown (blue and white shirt), Rick, N6ND (now SK), Don, N7GZA (now N1GZA), Harv, KD6QK (later K6QK, now SK), Art, K6XT, Rich, KI6ZH (now NN3W), Bruce, K6JYO (now K0YW), Ken, K6KT, Glenn, K6NA, Jim, K6ZH

Kneeling in front: both unknown.

We also know that Marko, now N5ZO, and John, WA6ZJC (now K6AM) were there for this FD, but apparently not when we took this photo. Any help in filling in the gaps would be appreciated.

Jim, K6ZH



VP Report

Mike, NA6MB



This month, I am again reporting from XE2 land; our Cabo San Lucas, Mexico QTH. WX is beautiful here with temps in the high 70's in the day and mid to low 60's at night. The ocean water is pretty cold now, so swimming is chilly. But not bad for February !

The vertical we have here seems to pick up more noise than signal, so I brought my Buddipole to see if it works better. Or I might get to the dipole I spoke of earlier. Trying to get a digital interface built for my FT-990 to make a few RTTY contacts in CQ WPX RTTY this weekend (2/10 to 2/12).

There was no meeting and no program for December. We had the Holiday party. Hope you all had fun!

January Program

SDDXC History review

by John K6AM, Terry N6CW, Jim W6YA and Jim K6ZH

These long time SDDXC members gave a very nice summary of what, why, when and how of the early years of the SDDXC. Each gave a few highlights of their memories from back in the day. Audience questions filled out the time. I'm sure we could have gone on for longer, but ran out of time. Thanks guys !

February Program

NPOTA (National Parks On The Air)

by John Vissat NA6L

John NA6L, will speak about his summer travels activating MANY national parks and monuments.

John activated 177 park units making him the 18th on the NPOTA activator leader board.

He is also 196th on the chaser leader board.

John will tell us about the fun he had and the challenges he encountered along the way.

(The October 2016 edition of the SDDXC Bulletin includes some background on the NPOTA Program.)



Mike, NA6MB

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Randy, KQ6RS

Meeting Minutes, SDDXC Club, January 25, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. 30 members and three guests were in attendance. The 1st guest was Pat Herndon, KC6S from Poway. He was a member many years ago. The 2nd guest was Bo Kordel, N7BK. This was his 2nd visit to our club. The 3rd guest was Ray Savage, W6EFA. He was a member of our club in the 60s.



Old business – the November 2016 meeting minutes, and November and December 2016 Treasurer's reports were approved.

New business – Howard opened a discussion on our participation in SANDARC.

In case you did not know, the San Diego DX Club has a call. It is W6PT.

At 6:41 John, K6AM, presented the Rookie of the year award to Randy Standke, KQ6RS.

At 6:47 Mike, NA6MB, raffled off four left over items from the holiday party.

At 6:54 we started our roundtable discussions.

After the break, at 7:44, we had a Club History Panel Discussion. The panel consisted of: John, K6AM, Terry, N6CW, Jim, W6YA and Jim, K6ZH.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Treasurer's Report

Income for January \$320 (membership renewal for 1, 2 or 3 years)

Expenses for January – none.

Statement Balance on 1/26/2017 \$8,511.98

Randy, KQ6RS